

Special Restrictions

**Lower Salmon and Little Salmon rivers:** Fishing from any watercraft is prohibited within 30 yards of the west shoreline of the Salmon River from the Riggins City Park boat ramp upstream to a posted boundary approximately 50 yards upstream of the mouth of the Little Salmon River. Fishing from any watercraft is also prohibited in the Little Salmon River from the mouth upstream approximately 200 yards to a posted boundary.

**Mainstem Clearwater River:** Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing is also prohibited in the area of the ladder to the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery (approximately 1 mile upstream of the Cherry Lane Bridge) as delineated by posted boundaries approximately 100 yards upstream and downstream from the ladder, and extending into the river channel approximately 50 yards.

**North Fork Clearwater River:** Fishing from the shoreline or wading along the perimeter of Dworshak National Fish Hatchery is prohibited. Fishing from any watercraft or wading is prohibited between the posted line approximately 150 yards upstream from the mouth of the North Fork Clearwater River to the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge. When fishing from the Ahsahka Highway 7 Bridge, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take any fish downstream of the railroad bridge. Fishing from the railroad bridge is prohibited.

Releasing Fish

Any salmon with an intact adipose fin that is landed or any salmon that is landed but not reduced to possession must be released. Releasing fish is most effective when anglers strive to ensure that each fish caught and released has the maximum chance to survive.

You can do your part to increase the survival of released fish by following these stress reducing practices:

- Use proper size tackle to land the fish quickly.
- Use barbless hooks to ease hook removal and minimize injury to the fish.
- Use nets with non-abrasive material to reduce loss of mucous and scales from the fish.
- Do not handle the fish with dry hands.
- Do not squeeze the fish.
- Do not touch or hold fish by the gills, gill covers, or the eyes.
- Leave the fish in the water while removing the hook; holding fish upside down in the water often makes them easier to handle.
- If the hook is too deep to be easily removed, cut the leader. This will give the fish the best chance to survive.
- If the fish is exhausted, hold it in a swimming position in the water and gently move back and forth until it is able to swim away.

Other Relevant Statutes & Rules

The following acts are unlawful by statute or commission rule. Consult Title 36, Idaho Code, or the 2011-2012 Idaho Fishing Seasons and Rules for exact wording and complete listing.

It Is Unlawful:

- To fish within the posted upstream or downstream boundary of any fish weir or trap.
- To refuse to produce license or fish for inspection upon request by a conservation officer.
- To fail to stop and report at check stations that have been established to inspect licenses and fish and game.
- To possess, transport or use as bait any live fish, leeches, frogs, salamanders, waterdogs, or shrimp as bait, except that live crayfish may be used if caught on the body of water being fished.
- To catch any part of another person’s bag limit, EXCEPT in the case of license-exempt persons fishing for salmon and steelhead.
- To transport for another or accept as a gift any game fish, unless a statement signed by the taker accompanies the fish, showing the number and kinds, the date taken, the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To claim ownership to more wild game or fish taken within the state of Idaho than allowed by established possession limits.
- To ship any fish by commercial carrier unless the outside of the package is marked as to the number and kinds of fish and the package contains a written statement showing the taker’s name, address and fishing license number.
- To use seines, dip nets, spears, snag hooks, or any other contrivances in taking any fish from the waters of the state EXCEPT as allowed by Commission regulation. (Note: Tribal fisheries may use gear types other than those allowed in sport fisheries)
- To waste game fish.
- To sell fish without a permit.

IDFG adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, or handicap. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707; or The Office of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with section 60-202, Idaho Code. 4-09/30,000/31801

Licenses, Permits and Requirements

Resident Fishing License .....	\$25.75
Resident Junior (14-17) Fishing License .....	\$13.75
Resident Salmon Permit (License Required).....	\$12.75
Resident Two-Pole Permit .....	\$13.75
Nonresident Fishing License .....	\$98.25
Nonresident Junior (under 18) Fishing License .	\$21.75
Nonresident Salmon Permit (License Required)	\$25.75
3-Day Salmon/Steelhead Permit (includes a 3-Day General Fishing License) .....	\$37.50
Nonresident Two-Pole Permit .....	\$15.50

- Any person, age 14 and older, must have a valid Fishing License and Salmon Permit in possession to fish for salmon, except Free Fishing Day, June 11, 2011.
- Any person, age 14 and older, who does not qualify as a resident must purchase a Nonresident Season Fishing License and Salmon Permit, a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and Salmon Permit, or a 3-Day Salmon\Steelhead License to fish for salmon.
- To qualify for resident status, a person must be domiciled in the state for at least six months.
- Children (including nonresidents) under the age of 14 may fish without a license and salmon permit provided they are accompanied by the holder of a valid permit and that any salmon greater than 24 inches total length kept must be recorded on the permit holder’s card and all salmon kept must be counted in the permit holder’s legal bag, possession, and season limit.
- Resident children under the age of 14 may purchase their own salmon permit so that they may catch their own limit of salmon.
- Nonresident children under the age of 14 may purchase a Nonresident Junior Fishing License and a salmon permit so that they may catch their own limit of salmon.
- Children (including nonresidents) under the age of 14 may purchase a two pole permit.
- The holder of a valid Idaho Fishing License and Salmon Permit may fish for salmon in the Snake River where it forms the boundary between the states of Idaho and Oregon, subject to the fish and game laws of Idaho, but may not fish from the shoreline, including wading, and may not fish in sloughs or tributaries on the Oregon side. An Oregon license holder has the same rights and restrictions with reference to the Idaho side. Any angler who fishes on the Snake River is entitled to have in possession only the limit allowed by one license regardless of the number of licenses in possession.
- Consult the 2011-2012 Fishing Seasons and Rules brochure for other regulations relating to fishing, license costs and other Department information.

IDAHO 2011  
Chinook Salmon  
Seasons & Rules

(Effective 7/28/2011)

Snake River  
Mainstem Clearwater River  
North Fork Clearwater River  
Middle Fork Clearwater  
South Fork Clearwater River  
Lochsa River  
Lower Salmon River  
Little Salmon River

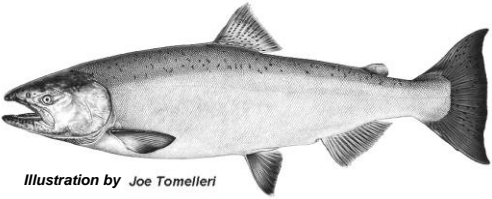


Illustration by Joe Tomelleri

Salmon in this brochure refer to anadromous (ocean run) Chinook salmon of the species *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game  
Cal Groen, Director  
P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707  
Phone: (208) 334-3700  
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov>  
**Citizens Against Poaching**  
1-800-632-5999

Seasons

The following waters are open to fishing for salmon during the periods listed. Waters not specifically designated below shall remain CLOSED to fishing for salmon unless opened by Commission action. In all waters open to salmon fishing, the season shall be 7 days a week until further notice.

Open April 23 until further notice:

**Snake River (Hells Canyon):** From the Dug Bar boat ramp upstream to Hells Canyon Dam.

**Mainstem Clearwater River (Lower):** From the Camas Prairie Railroad Bridge at Lewiston upstream to the Cherry Lane Bridge.

**Mainstem Clearwater River (Middle):** From the Cherry Lane Bridge upstream to the Orofino Bridge (see mainstem Clearwater River Special Restrictions on page 4).

**Mainstem Clearwater River (Upper):** From the Orofino Bridge upstream to the South Fork Clearwater River.

**North Fork Clearwater River:** From its mouth upstream to Dworshak Dam (see North Fork Clearwater River Special Restrictions on page 4).

**South Fork Clearwater River:** From its mouth upstream to the confluence of American and Red rivers.

**Middle Fork Clearwater River:** From its confluence with the South Fork Clearwater River upstream to the confluence of the Lochsa and Selway rivers.

**Lochsa River:** From its mouth upstream to the Twin Bridges immediately upstream from the confluence of Crooked Fork and Colt Killed creeks.

**Little Salmon River (Lower):** From the mouth upstream to a posted boundary approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of Rapid River. (see Lower Salmon and Little Salmon rivers Special Restrictions on page 4)

**Little Salmon River (Upper):** From the posted boundary approximately 200 yards upstream of the mouth of Rapid River upstream to the US Highway 95 Bridge near Smokey Boulder Road.

**Open April 23 CLOSED end of fishing July 24**  
**Lower Salmon River (Pine Bar):** From the Rice Creek Bridge upstream to a posted boundary approximately 200 yards downstream from the Hammer Creek boat ramp.  
**Lower Salmon River (Hammer Creek):** From a posted boundary approximately 200 yards downstream from the Hammer Creek boat ramp upstream to the US Highway 95 Time Zone Bridge.

**Open April 23CLOSED end of fishing July 28.**  
**Lower Salmon River (Park Hole):** From the US Highway 95 Time Zone Bridge upstream to the mouth of Short’s Creek (see Lower Salmon and Little Salmon rivers Special Restrictions on page 4).

Open June 18 CLOSED end of fishing July 24:

**Lower Salmon River (Vinegar Creek):** From the mouth of Short’s Creek upstream to the uppermost boat ramp at Vinegar Creek.

Tribal fisheries also occur in Idaho. They are governed by the Tribes and have different rules than Idaho sport fisheries. Please respect these different fishing traditions.

Fishing Hours

**Clearwater River Drainage, Snake, Lower Salmon and Little Salmon Rivers:** Fishing for salmon is permitted only during the hours shown in the table below.

Dates	Pacific Daylight Time		Mountain Daylight Time	
	AM Begin Time	PM End time	AM Begin Time	PM End time
June 4 -July 15	4:25	9:45	5:25	10:45
July 16 - August 10	4:40	9:40	5:40	10:40

Daily, Possession, & Season Limits

**NOTE: Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) may implement in-season changes to seasons or bag and possession limits. For updated seasons and limits information consult a license vendor, an IDFG office, the IDFG salmon fishing hotline (855-287-2702) or the IDFG website: ([http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/Fish/rules/chinook\\_seasons/](http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/Fish/rules/chinook_seasons/))**

**Adult Chinook salmon** are 24 inches or more in length.  
**Jack Chinook salmon** are less than 24 inches in length.

Mainstem Clearwater River Lower, Mainstem Clearwater River- Middle and North Fork Clearwater River

- **Daily Limit:** 6 jack salmon per day (No adult salmon may be kept). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon for the day when they retain 6 jack salmon.
- **Possession Limit:** 18 jack salmon in possession (anglers must not have adult salmon in possession). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon when they possess 18 jack salmon.

Mainstem Clearwater River Upper, Middle Fork Clearwater River, South Fork Clearwater River Lochsa River. and Snake River

- **Daily Limit:** 6 salmon per day (no more than 2 may be an adult). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon for the day when they retain 6 salmon or 2 adult salmon, whichever comes first.
- **Possession Limit:** 18 salmon in possession (no more than 6 may be adults). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon when they possess 18 salmon or 6 adult salmon, whichever comes first

Lower Salmon River and Little Salmon Rivers

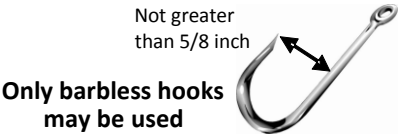
- **Daily Limit:** 6 salmon per day (no more than 3 may be adults). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon for the day when they retain 6 salmon or 3 adult salmon, whichever comes first.
- **Possession Limit:** 18 salmon in possession (no more than 9 may be adults). Anglers must cease fishing for salmon when they possess 18 salmon or 9 adult salmon, whichever comes first. “Possession limit” shall apply to salmon while in the field or being transported to the final place of consumption or storage.

Statewide

- **Annual Limit:** No person may take more than twenty (20) adult Chinook salmon statewide during 2011 salmon seasons occurring prior to September 1, 2011.

Methods of Take

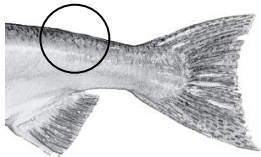
- A. It is unlawful to use any hook larger than 5/8 inch measured from the point of the hook to the shank.
- B. Only barbless hooks may be used when fishing for salmon. Bending the barb down to the shank of a single, double, or treble hook will meet this requirement.
- C. Only single point barbless hooks are allowed while fishing for salmon in the South Fork Clearwater River.
- D. In the Lochsa River, only artificial flies and lures with one barbless hook per fly or lure (no bait) may be used. A single hook may have up to 3 points.



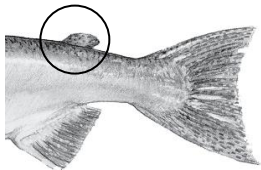
Snagging:

It is unlawful to take or attempt to take salmon by snagging. Snagging shall mean the taking or attempting to take a fish by use of a hook or lure in any manner or method other than enticing or attracting a fish to strike with, and become hooked in its mouth. A salmon that has been hooked anywhere

Harvest Rules



- A. Hatchery Chinook salmon may be kept if the adipose fin has been clipped as evidenced by a healed scar



- B. Chinook salmon with an unclipped adipose fin MUST be released upon landing.

- C. It shall be unlawful to fish in any waters while having fish in possession which violate rules for those waters.
- D. No person shall have in the field or in transit any salmon from which the head or tail has been removed (Unless the fish has been commercially filleted and the intact carcass accompanies the fillets in transit).
- E. All salmon that are hooked, landed and reduced to possession shall be counted in the limits of the person hooking the fish.
- F. All salmon that are reduced to possession must be killed immediately after landing.

Permit Validation

When an adult Chinook salmon has been hooked, landed and reduced to possession, the angler hooking the fish must immediately:

- A. Cut out and completely remove one numbered notch from the permit; and
  - B. Look up the location code number from the list below and write it in the space provided; and
  - C. Enter in space provided, the month and day fish was caught.
- Note:
- When a salmon is released unharmed, as in catch-and-release fishing, the angler is not required to make an entry on the permit.
  - While anglers may retain salmon less than 24 inches length as part of their bag and possession limit they are not required to record them on their permit.

For example, a salmon greater or equal to 24 inches length kept from the South Fork Clearwater River on June 1 would be entered as:

Fish	Bird	Month	Day	Location Code	Month	Day	Location Code	Fish	Bird
1		6	01	07				21	
2								22	
3								23	
4								24	
5								25	

REMOVE NOTCH COMPLETELY!

**RIVER LOCATION CODES**  
*See Seasons section for full description of fishing boundaries. All of a river section may not be open for salmon fishing.*

**Snake River**  
Dug Bar boat ramp to Hells Canyon Dam .....02

**Clearwater River**  
Clearwater River, below the Orofino Bridge.....03  
Clearwater River, above the Orofino Bridge.....04  
North Fork Clearwater River.....05  
Middle Fork Clearwater River .....06  
South Fork Clearwater River.....07  
Lochsa River .....08

**Lower Salmon River**  
Rice Creek Bridge to Whitebird Creek .....10  
Whitebird Creek to Little Salmon River .....11  
Little Salmon River to Vinegar Creek.....12

**Little Salmon River**  
Little Salmon River .....20